

## COUNTRY SCHOOL CONFERENCE TO BE HELD AT EDINBORO

FIRST OF A SERIES OF CONFERENCES TO BE HELD IN THE  
CHAPEL ON MARCH FIFTEEN.

**Superintendent Rapp of Berks County, J. George Becht of the State Board of Education, Professor Wm. A. Elliott of Allegheny College and Principal Baker to Give Program of Unusual Interest.**

Those who know Principal Baker know that there is one subject that claims his particular interest. His enthusiasm in all matters of educational value is keen, but let the subject of the welfare of the country school be suggested and all others take a second place. He is a profound believer in the movement for the betterment of country life; any work that may tend to increase the efficiency of the rural school has his constant support. He has, from the day of his introduction to Edinboro on Alumni Day of Old Home Week, declared his belief that the peculiar function of the Normal School, that is under his direction, should be in behalf of elementary education in the country districts. To the end of advancing his theories he has arranged a conference for March 15, that promises to be of special interest, not only to the entire student body, but to all citizens of the community.

Two sessions will be held as follows:

Morning Session at Ten O'Clock  
Devotional Exercises... The Rev. Mr. Richard A. Buzza  
Pastor, Methodist Episcopal Church, Edinboro, Pa.  
Opening Address..... Principal Frank E. Baker  
Forward Movement in Country Schools

..... Mr. Eli M. Rapp  
Superintendent of Schools, Berks County.  
Socializing the Country Schools... Dr. J. George Becht  
Secretary State Board of Education  
General Discussion, led by..... Dr. William A. Elliott  
Professor of Greek Language and Literature,  
Allegheny College

(The topics printed below have been suggested for general discussion.)

Afternoon Session at Two O'Clock.  
Consolidated Rural Schools as a Center of Community Life..... Professor Elliott  
A Crusade for Better Country Schools..... Superintendent Eli M. Rapp  
General Discussion continued..... Professor Elliott

### TOPICS FOR DISCUSSION.

1. Should teachers of rural schools have a distinctive training? If so, what should be the nature of this training?
2. Should the school time for rural schools be increased?
3. Should there be a summer term for young pupils in country districts?
4. How may rural schools be made a greater power in creating a social life and community spirit?
5. How may rural schools do more than they are doing to intellectualize and spiritualize country life?
6. What are the practical difficulties in the way of consolidation?

7. What is the practical limit to the size of consolidated districts?
8. Can rural schools ever become a great force in the community life until teachers become more permanent?
9. What can be done to make teachers of rural schools more permanent?
10. Should normal schools offer a distinctive course for rural teachers?
11. What plan can be adopted to regulate the promotion of poorly prepared pupils?
12. To what extent can agricultural courses be introduced into country schools as they are now organized?
13. In what ways can the country school and the country church work together?

Programs and invitations have been issued to some three thousand teachers and educational men in Northwestern Pennsylvania. It is very probable that the attendance will be large.

### Two Important Meetings

During the past three weeks Principal Baker has attended two meetings that vitally concern the interests of Edinboro. One, a meeting of the Legislative committee of the State Board of Normal School Principals held in Harrisburg, and the other a Principals' Conference in Slippery Rock. At the former, legislative action was discussed and bills drafted to meet the present needs and the year's requirements of the Normal Schools of the State, and to provide an adequate appropriation to the State Board of Education to enable it to purchase the stock and equipment of those Normal Schools that have accepted its provisional offer. As a result of the meeting three bills are now before the House of Representatives, as follows:

House Bill No. 420, introduced by Representative Baldwin, of Delaware county, calling for an appropriation of \$125,000 to make up make up the deficit in State aid for the current year.

A bill introduced by Representative Hess, of Lancaster county, providing for an appropriation of \$390,000, sufficient to give each school an annual maintenance fund of \$15,000.

A bill introduced by Dr. C. M. C. Campbell, of Allegheny, calling for an appropriation

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### BASEBALL SCHEDULE IS NEARLY COMPLETE.

**Edinboro Plays Many Schools For the First Time—More Dates are Open.**

Manager Fay Daley, of the baseball team, announced today that he had now nine games on the schedule, and the outlook for more was good. Rayen High, of Youngstown, has been offered May 10, or June 14. Slippery Rock Normal, may take May 17.

It is gratifying indeed to see Allegheny, Thiel, Jamestown, and Chamberlain Military Institute on our schedule.

We play Jamestown and Chamberlain for the first time.

Several of our strong opponents appear near the opening of the season.

Indoor practice will begin next week. The schedule which shows a marked improvement over any of previous years is as follows:

Saturday, April 5; Cambridge High at Edinboro.

Saturday, April 12; Warren High at Warren.

Saturday, April 19; Thiel at Greenville.

Saturday, April 26; Allegheny at Edinboro.

Saturday, May 3; Jamestown High at Jamestown.

Saturday, May 10; open.

Saturday, May 17; open.

Saturday, May 24; Thiel at Edinboro.

Friday, May 30; Chamberlain Military Institute at Randolph, N. Y.

Saturday, May 31; Jamestown High at Edinboro.

Saturday, June 7; Chamberlain at Edinboro.

Saturday, June 14; open.

Saturday, June 21; Reserved for Alumni game.

### A Forced Contribution.

Having been publicly appointed to write an article of at least one hundred twenty-five words for this paper, or else have a certain amount of space left blank and dedicated to me, I have decided to write a few words of warning to the subscribers of the paper who are not members of the school.

A short time ago the editor of this paper gave an enthusiastic talk in Chapel. He told us what we should do for the paper, how we should support it, and how it would be improved by our support. Furthermore, he compared the speed with which the paper is to flourish in the future with the speed of a frightened jack-rabbit. So lest you may think, on

[Concluded on Page Two]

**The Cantata.**

The entire music department is busily engaged in preparing an entertainment which promises to be one of the most pleasing of the year—The Cantata, "Queen Esther."

For several weeks we have heard beautiful melodies floating on the evening breezes from Music Hall, and judging from these, we have no hesitancy in saying that this Cantata is something eminently worth while. This is not strictly a Normal entertainment, for when Mr. Gleason first took up the project, he cordially invited the best talent of the town to aid him, and the people of the town have shown their good will and appreciation by heartily responding, and joining with the students to produce one of the most beautiful cantatas ever written.

"Queen Esther" is one of Wm. B. Bradbury's productions. The setting of the story is in Persia, 500 years B. C., and the theme, the beautiful story of Esther. This fair Jewish girl, who, having been reared by her uncle, Mordecai, does not disclose her true nationality, even when she becomes wife of the King of the Realm. One of the favorite friends of the King is Hamen, who hates Mordecai, and not knowing his relation to the Queen obtains a writ from the King that all Jews in the province shall be put to death. Mordecai discovers the plot and persuades Queen Esther to petition the King for the safety of her people, which she does at the peril of her own life, on account of the law that no one shall go before the King unbidden. The King hears her petition, and Hamen, now defeated, is hanged on the gallows which he had previously prepared for Mordecai.

Thus the Jews are saved and Mordecai is given the office of Premier, and there is great rejoicing throughout the province.

The cast of characters is as follows:

Esther, the Queen	Miss Olivia J. Thomas
Ahasnerus, the King	Charles Jones
Hamen	Morgan Barnes
Mordecai	F. S. Gleason
Zeresh	Mrs. Chalmer Swift
Mordecai's sister	Mrs. Frank Bonner
Prophetess	Nina Swift
A Median Princess	Esther Averill
A Persian Princess	Ethel Howland
Scribe	Henry Gorlein
Beggar	Arthur Johnson
Hegai	A. H. Kellogg
High Priest	
Herald	Leo Armagost
Harbonah	Neff Cass

A chorus of over forty well trained voices will be one of the main features of the entertainment.

The costumes are both elaborate and beautiful. There is not a single part in the whole production that will not bring approval from the audience.

Our able director, Mr. Gleason, is leaving

nothing undone to make this affair a magnificent success, and it will undoubtedly be one of the finest entertainments ever given in Edinboro.

**Edinboro Reserves Defeated by Erie High Second Team Passers.**

The reserves lost to Erie High last Monday night by a score of 31 to 14. The game was almost a repetition of the first team game played with Erie.

The Erie boys played a fast and rough game throughout. Unnecessary fouling was prominent. Hayes and Green, up against Mook and Sevin, did not play their accustomed game at forward. DeArment was outjumped by O'Connor. Bentley played a good floor game, Porter kept his man from scoring.

For a time during the first half it looked as though Edinboro would outplay their opponents, but Erie came in strong near the close of the game, and found the basket time after time in quick succession.

The line-up:

Erie—31.	Edinboro—14.
Mead.....	R. F.....Green
Carney, Sutton.....	L. F.....Hayes
O'Connor.....	C.....DeArment
Mook.....	R. G.....Porter
Sevin.....	L. G.....Bentley

Field Goals — Mead 4, O'Connor 5, Mook 4, Green 1, DeArment 2, Bentley 2.

Goals from Foul—Mead 3, Sutton 2, Green 4.

At the last of December 40,159 men were employed on the Panama Canal, of that number 5,816 were American citizens.

**Two Important Meetings**

[Concluded from Page One]

of \$400,000 for the purchase of the Normal Schools of the State, under provision of the school code of 1911.

The particular clause of this last named bill which concerns Edinboro, is that providing the sum of \$8,500 for the reimbursement of stockholders, the assumption of all indebtedness and the further appropriation of \$8,000 for a reduction plant.

Readers of the Birch Rod are requested to write at once to their Representatives and Senators urging the passage of these bills which so seriously effect the future of our Normal School. Our earnest hope is that the bills may pass.

The meeting in Slippery Rock was concerned chiefly with a new two years' course of study proposed by Edinboro, which affords graduates of High schools of the first class, an opportunity to complete their professional work in Normal Schools without repeating subject already studied. The proposed course in general was favorably considered though final action was deferred to a later meeting.

**A Forced Contribution.**

[Concluded from Page One]

reading the paper, that the students are neglecting their studies and are spending all their time in writing editorials; I wish to inform you that the great improvement is due merely to extra work on the part of the editors and a few of the most energetic students.

A Student.

## Edinboro State Normal School

STANDS FOR

*A HIGH STANDARD OF SCHOLARSHIP*

*THE AMATEUR SPIRIT IN ATHLETICS*

*WHOLESOME SOCIAL ASSOCIATIONS*

IT ALSO

*BELIEVES IN AND SUPPORTS*

## The Birch Rod

Address the Principal Edinboro, Pa.



## IRISH STORY TELLER VISITS EDINBORO.

### Was at Reeder Hall Over Sunday—A Survey of His Work.

The first number of the lecture course for the winter term was filled by Mr. Suemas McManus, on Saturday, January 18. Mr. McManus is the Irish story teller. He was born in Donegal where he yet resides. When eighteen he was schoolmaster in the same school house in which he had been a pupil and it was during that time that he gathered much of the material for the fairy and folk tales he now tells. He told to the children here in the afternoon several stories of the faries in Ireland. He told how the fairies first came to Ireland, that during the trouble between the angels in heaven, there were several of those angels who remained neutral, taking neither the side of Satan nor of Michael. Michael triumphed and Satan was cast into hell. Those who had remained neutral, not being allowed to remain in heaven, were given their choice between hell and any other place outside of heaven. Since they had to leave heaven, they wished to be in a place as near to it as possible, and chose Ireland.

In the evening he gave an idea of the strange and general belief in fairies now existing in Ireland. He told how the people gathered in the evenings at the house where Bacach happened to be. Bacach was the wandering beggarman who travelled from house to house and stopped where he wished as an honored guest. The neighborhood was informed of his coming and came from all around. They had first a long prayer and when it was over, the stories began, lasting far into the night and sometimes even until morning.

Mr. McManus remained in Edinboro until Monday. Sunday evening, he entertained in Reeder Hall parlors, those of the faculty, who are rooming in the halls, with selections from his own writings. He has written for the Atlantic, Harpers, the Independent, the Outlook, the World's Work and a number of other magazines. Some of his poems are "I Understand," "An Exile," and "An Irish Lullaby." He also wrote "Bachelors of Braggy," "New Ireland," "Ballads of a Country Boy," and "Donegal Fairy Stories." Mrs. McManus has written many poems which have also been published. She writes under the name of Ethna Carbery.

On leaving here Mr. McManus went to Akron, Ohio, where he was to lecture. From there, he intended going south, through Tennessee and Alabama and, later on, west through California, Oregon and Washington. In May or June, he is to sail for Ireland.

Mr. McManus mentioned that there were twenty million people of Irish descent in the United States, that number far exceeding those in Ireland.

He expressed his opinion that home rule would do much to help the Irish, but the thing to be greatly desired is independence.

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# THE BIRCH ROD



A fortnightly newspaper edited by the students of The Edinboro State Normal School, and published at the print shop of the Edinboro Independent.

**TERMS**---This newspaper will be supplied for the school year, 1912-13, for the sum of fifty cents, or five cents a copy.

This paper is entered as second-class mail matter at the postoffice at Edinboro, Pa.

## EDITORIAL STAFF

EDITORS ..... Charles Marsh: Donald Richey  
 ATHLETIC EDITOR ..... Hubert Bentley  
 NEWS EDITOR ..... Alice Walker  
 ALUMNI EDITOR ..... Helen Whiting  
 MANAGER ..... William T. McKelvey  
 ASSISTANT MANAGER ..... John Harbaugh

The "Crawford Journal" for February 13, contains an interesting item about the recent visit of some of our Spanish speaking students to Meadville. The following sentence in that article, however, nearly took our breath away: "They are at Edinboro and have been rather handicapped in their studies as there is no interpreter of the Spanish language there." This startled us, for we had flattered ourselves that we were unusually well supplied with men in our faculty who could interpret the Spanish language. Mr. Barnes of our language department has had years of experience as a teacher of Spanish in the Thacher School of California, and Mr. Walk of our training department, under whose direct supervision our Spanish speaking students are placed, was a school superintendent in the Philippine Islands for nine years and there learned Spanish. Yet by the high authority of the "Crawford Journal" we are informed that these cultured gentlemen are incapable of interpreting the Spanish language. What a blow it is to our self complacency! How our gods are fallen! Anyway, wasn't it kind of mean for the "Crawford Journal," even if it did find us out, to expose us to all North-western Pennsylvania, where we wish especially to maintain a good reputation?

The Philo Everett Sociey has invited the Potter Society to a special musical program at Chapel Hall, Saturday, March 1, at 6 o'clock.

# THE BIRCH ROD

## Senior-Junior Scrap.

Room 35, Reeder Hall. 2:30 p. m.

Officials. January 13.

Dean Shiever, Referee.

Bruce Patterson, Timekeeper.

It has been said that there is only one time in Hubert's life that his wonderful "gift of gab" failed. This happened one day when "Bent" refused to believe that the Juniors desired him to remove a "Fourteen" Jersey. It seems that seven Juniors were talking the matter over with our worthy Senior (with the proper officials in their respective places, of course.) All of a sudden they could not tell what they wished, forcibly enough, so force seemed inevitable. One Junior nabbed the neck of the "jersey" from behind, while others made sure that "Bent's" feet were made non-destructive.

The struggle between the Senior and the Juniors lasted probably two minutes when three husky Seniors were attracted by the noise. Taking about a minute to force the door open, they rushed into the room only to find Hubert in a corner with his tongue hanging out, and face as black as ink. But the blackness of his face did not seem to worry our patriotic Juniors. They kept wringing and hauling with all their might. It was the "jersey" they wanted: To make a long story short the fresh Seniors soon scattered the murderous mob and helped "Bent" to remove the "jersey." The blackness, then, soon disappeared from his face, and his power of speech returned. No unnecessary words had been wasted until now. Those who heard Hubert roar then, say that he certainly made up for the five minutes that he lost during the contest. Five minuter is exact, as Patterson says his clock keeps absolutely correct time.

## HAVEN HALL NOTES.

Laura Wells' brother visited her Sunday afternoon.

Grace and Glenn Erwin visited Helen Whiting Saturday and Sunday.

Haven Hall has quite blossomed out this last week. We have four new ferns and two more palms. We look so festive you would hardly know us.

The girls of Haven Hall appreciate Miss Bowman's efforts and congratulate her upon the success of the plays Saturday night.

It would be supposed that "Reeder Hall Notes" is the place to mention that Floyd Bathurst and Carl Johnson were here over Sunday, but we insist that they spent enough time at Haven to warrant our mentioning it, too.

Verna, Alice, Mabel and Marian went down to Mr. Siddell's for supper, Friday night. They reported a good time and told mysterious stories about the charms of Rip-ti-di-dum.

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### DeVeaux College at Edinboro.

Edinboro gained her third victory for the season of 1913, at the Normal Gym, on Saturday, February 22, when DeVeaux College met the local team in one of the best games of the season. While not so fast as some of the preceding games, this game was interesting and characterized throughout by good feeling. Many fouls were called on both teams but they were for technical errors rather than for rough work.

Sears captured the first basket of the game for DeVeaux, Proudfit tied the score for Edinboro and Graham shot a foul goal; followed rapidly by a field goal to Leach's credit. Kelschenbach scored one point for DeVeaux and was immediately supported by Barnwell with two more tying the score. Graham scored from the field and from the foul line. Kelschenbach scored one more, ending the scoring for DeVeaux in the first half. Proudfit and Graham scored field goals in the order named. Score for the first half, 6-13 in favor of Edinboro.

Graham secured the first points for Edinboro during the second half. Kelschenbach added one for DeVeaux. Graham then scored on a foul and followed it by a field basket. Harbaugh scored for Edinboro from the floor. Kelschenbach secured DeVeaux's only field basket for the second half, by a sensational long shot from the lower end of the floor. This shot, by the way, was by far the longest and one of the prettiest made on the Normal floor this year. Graham shot two fouls for Edinboro, in rapid succession. Harbaugh scored again from near the center of the floor. Kelschenbach scored for DeVeaux with the permission of the referee. Graham secured a field goal, and then another followed quickly by Proudfit. Kelschenbach scored again from the foul line, DeVeaux's last point in the game. Proudfit scored two for Edinboro, then Graham one and Proudfit two again, closing the score. Score for second half 22-5 with Normal on the good end.

The final score stood 35 to 11.

The spirit shown by the DeVeaux boys throughout the game was admirable. Although playing a losing game they did not at any time show bad temper or start to "muss it up." They played the game, win or lose, for the game in itself.

Field Goals—Lears 1, F. Barnwell 1, Kelschenbach 1, Graham 6, Harbaugh 2. Leach 1, Proudfit 5.

Foul Goals—Graham 7, Kelschenbach 5.

Edinboro.	DeVeaux.
Leach, Hood .....	R. G. .... Lears
Shriver, Obert .....	L. G. .... Kelsc'bach, B'well, J.
Harbaugh, Matthews .....	C. .... Henderson
Graham .....	R. F. .... Barnwell, F.
Proudfit .....	L. F. .... B'well, J., Kelsc'bach

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## THE BIRCH ROD

## THE STRANGER.

The crosstown car crept slowly through the crowded street, the impatient foot of the motorman clanging the bell in vain. No one heard it, or if they did, no one gave heed to its warning. Newsboys, and men, and women ran across just before, ran not because of the oncoming car but because the running was only a part of their life. It seemed as if the unconcerned driver ahead intended to keep his truck within the rails the rest of the journey.

The car was filled with people and confusion. It was the usual crowd, tired women with restless children and men hidden by the "World" and the "Sun". There was the same swaying in the aisle, the same creaking of the straps above and over all the same cry from somewhere in the rear, "Step lively, Madam." Once in a while it happened that it was the person nearest the door who wanted the car stopped, but only once in a while.

Finally the car reached Broadway. Among the passengers getting off was a girl, not a stranger, though she lacked the native born hurry and hustle. There was a frown on her face as she turned and slowly walked toward the subway entrance to uptown cars.

"Stupid. It has been this way all day. If there were only one person, one who would just look at another. It is more lonesome here than if I were alone."

She went on. The steps were black with others going the same way, and she only made one more. Buying a ticket at the window she pushed on with the rest. The air was hot and gaseous and the noise was deafening. It was Grand Central at six o'clock. The girl's eyes watched each car for the word "Express" and when they caught it, she moved on to standing room inside. With a jar of iron gates and a jerk, the train was off.

At 72nd, a good many left and at 96th, the girl found a seat. Across from her sat an old woman whose worn, gray dress told part, the tired wrinkled face telling almost all the rest. The younger eyes noticed it all, even the old-fashioned telescope on the floor, and she almost smiled as she thought, "No one would even look at her here. If I am to live on in this place, I may as well begin, too," but her eyes came back often to the other lonely figure.

At 116th, instead of Columbia's colors that she expected to see, the girl saw brown and white. The old woman was speaking aloud, "I wanted 110th."

"Another foolish mistake," the girl said to herself as she walked to the other end of the car and saw the word "Bronx" on the sign.

At 125th, the next stop, she left the car, fol-

owed by the old woman still murmuring, "I wanted 110th."

"I called 110 way back there," the conductor snarled, and in a moment he and the train were out of sight. The two stood there in the half-light alone except for the ticket man at the gate, and another man with whom he was talking. The girl still wore the impatient frown, but the old woman walked up and down, clasping and unclasping her hands, "What shall I do?" was all she said. Then going over to the man in the uniform, she asked him for help.

Turning at the sound of a voice, he looked at her insolently. His glance might have lasted a second, then he continued his conversation. When she turned, her eyes were wild. The girl had missed none of this. She leisurely approached the two so interested.

"Does the Vancourtland or the 242nd stop here?"

It was a civil answer, at least, which he made. "You were on the wrong car. Go to the surface and then down on the other side. You'll have to get back to 96th to change to the car you want." She thanked him and had taken a few steps, when he called, "You need not pay on the other side, I'll tell them your'e coming from this."

She felt the pleading eyes follow her as she walked quickly to the steps leading to the street. She still saw them as she dodged her way to the other side above. Two men were talking at the entrance to the downtown cars. As she passed, one laughed and said, "Have'n't you heard something about always having the poor with you?" She hurried on and had only time

for one glance across the tracks before the train came, but that one glance saw the stooped form still there. The train came and again she followed the others.

More rushing, more confusion, more uproar and the train roared on through the darkness.

There was a banquet for the Brotherhood down stairs one night not long ago, and the sisterhood upstairs could hardly make their feet behave on account of the orchestra.

Verna had a man and a party for her —th birthday. We didn't care so much about the man, but the party she was willing to share. (The blank is compulsory.)

Cornell University is considering the establishment of a five-year course in forestry.

## Harry Thompson

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EDINBORO, PA.



**Normal Quintet Defeats Kane High.**

The Kane High School Basketball Team was defeated here, last Saturday evening, February 15, by the Normal Team in the best and cleanest game that has been played on the local floor this year.

It was thought that the overwhelming defeat Kane gave us last year, and the fact that White and Leach were out of the game would seriously handicap us. This did not prove to be the case however as the final score shows.

Our team played the fastest and most consistent game they have played this year. The game was featured by the excellent passing and shooting of Proudfit and Mathews for the Normal and the shooting of Beatty for Kane, Graham played his accustomed star game at right forward, Harbaugh and Shriver each played a good game. This was Harbaugh's first game at center and he proved to be a success, Shriver showed the best form he has shown this year.

Beatty of Kane started the game well by making the first basket. This was immediately tied when Graham dropped one in. After this our boys kept drawing away until the final score was 14-38 in favor of Normal.

The Kane team were the cleanest and most sportsmanlike players that have played our team this season, we sincerely hope we showed them the cordiality which they deserved.

The line up:

Kane.		Edinboro.
McQuade.....	R. F.....	Graham
Beatty.....	L. F.....	Proudfit
E. Nicolas.....	C.....	Harbaugh
Engstrom.....	R. G.....	Shriver
McEnteer, R. Nicholas.....	L. G.....	Mathews

Field Goals—McQuade 1, Beatty 5, E. Nicolas 1, Proudfit 6, Graham 5, Mathews 4, Shriver 2, Harbaugh 1.

Fouls—Graham 2. Final score—Kane 14; Edinboro 38. Referee Perrotti, Umpire Hayes. Time of halves, 20 minutes.

**Before the Mirror.**

The Senior class is too sedate,  
They think they are so wise,  
But all their greatness vanishes  
In other people's eyes.

The Juniors are a perfect fright,  
Little knowledge have they drunk,  
And now exams are over,  
They realize they flunk.

The Freshmen are so very green,  
As you have heard before,  
We hope they will improve a bit,  
Before next year is o'er.

The class of '15  
Is the bright and shining light,  
They're an honor to the Normal,  
For the Sophmores are all right.  
—A Sophomore,

**Potter Plays.**

Everyone who was present agrees that the Potter plays were a success. They were given under the direction of Miss Bauman. An orchestra selected by Mr. Chas. Hawkins, furnished the music.

"The Obstinate Family" was an adaptation of a German play.

Chas. Scott and Maude McIntyre, as Mr. and Mrs. Harford, were very devoted. No one could have made such a good looking old couple as Carl Joslin and Freda Mitchell. A mother in-law like Freda is a good thing. It must have taken a great deal of practice for Marley Leach to play the part of the obstinate James, but he did it well. Lucy showed a very determined spirit but we don't blame James for loving her anyway. People cant help loving Myra.

Between the plays the Potter Chorus sang three songs. This was a most enjoyable feature of the evenings entertainment.

Helen Whiting, as Mrs. Amy Somers, made a very charming young widow, and certainly no one could have acted the part of Mr. Campbell so well as Arthur Johnson. The character of an ardent suitor seemed perfectly natural to him.

Ella Morgan who played the part of Jane, deserves special mention. We believe by her acting she has been frightened by a mouse before.

Edna Sammons, Ethel Doing, Elizabeth Fowler and Helen Bathurst demonstrated to us the most effective way to act when there is a possible mouse near hy. It isn't everyone who can shriek in the truly artistic way Helen can.

The new Republic of China is not satisfied with the 80,000 letters or signs in her alphabet. The government will attempt to reform the language.

Monday, March 3, Slippery Rock Normal will play our boys at Edinboro. This game promises to be the best of the season. We hope to give them the same cordial welcome that we gave Clarion last year.

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**THE BIRCH ROD**

**Juniors Add Another Victory—Defeat Upper Classmen.**

The Senior boys went down to defeat at the hands of the fast Junior team in the hardest fought game of the season. Team work on both sides was conspicuous by its absence. The game from start to finish was rough and tumble. The floor work of Bentley, and the foul shooting of DeRemer and Green deserves mention.

When the whistle blew the score was tied at 7. Then! An eyewitness declares that he never heard such an unearthly noise. The balcony fairly trembled with the deafening cheers of the opposing classmen.

Soon a double foul was called, both baskets shot, and the game went on. The enthusiasm grew intense. Another foul was called, and Green with his accustomed accurateness made the point. The Juniors went fairly wild with delight, and they had reasons to.

In a previous game the Junior boys won from the Commercial boys by a close margin. They are now entitled to first place in the series of boys games, unless the Sophomores "hang it onto them." The writer sincerely hopes that the Sophomores win. Not that he has anything against the Junior boys, but merely because a personal friend of his goes with a Sophomore girl.

**Girls' Basket Ball.**

The girls have been doing very creditable work in basket ball this season. The first game played was between the Senior and Sophomore girls with the following line-up:

Senior.		Sophomore.
Fisher.....	R. F.	Lockard
Morton.....	L. F.	Howland
McKinley.....	C.	Harvey
Quirk.....	R. G.	Crandall
Whiting, Smith.....	L. G.	Doubet

The final score was 16 to 0 in favor of the Seniors.

Monday evening, February 24, the Senior girls again appeared on the gym floor and played a very good game against the Juniors.

Senior.		Junior.
Fisher.....	R. F.	Averill
Morton.....	L. F.	Riblet
McKinley.....	C.	Webster
Quirk.....	R. G.	Frame
Whiting.....	L. G.	Randall

Even Mr. Snyder said that the Junior girls would win, but the Seniors did as Marjorie advised and "gave the Juniors a goose-egg, too."

Although both games in which the Senior girls have played have resulted in their favor, the other teams did very good work. But, who could stand against the SENIOR team with Casey as manager, for we all know that Casey at basket ball is not less formidable than "Casey at the bat."

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